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Sent: Tue 6/28/2016 1:18:12 PM
Subject: FW: Flint Readout 06/27/16
[2016.06.24-06.27-Metro Monitor.xlsx](#)
[2016.06.27-07.01 Flint Michigan clips.xlsx](#)

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Subject: Flint Readout 06/27/16

Recovery and Aid

[Flint foundation starts to make good on \\$100M pledge](#)

By Matthew Dolan, Detroit Free Press 06/27/16 1:31 PM

A Flint-based foundation's plan to spend \$100 million to help the city recover from its ongoing drinking water crisis is already off to a fast start, with plans to spend \$50 million in related grants by the end of the year. The latest program was announced Monday by the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation to expand a community school model now in place at five elementary schools to all 11 public schools in the Flint Community Schools starting this fall. It's designed to allow schools to connect students and families with health-related and other resources and services they may need in the wake of the citywide lead contamination of the water supply that started in 2014.

Empty buildings eyed in efforts to help Flint recover from water crisis

By Dominic Adams, MLIVE 06/27/16 6:07 AM

Empty buildings may hold one of the keys to helping Flint recover from its water crisis. With an estimated 7,000-plus vacant commercial properties around the city, officials are looking for ways to make those buildings attractive to potential investors. The renewed effort was part of the strategies that emerged from last week's summit that together Michigan's top business minds in an exchange of ideas that could help mold the vision for Flint's economic recovery following the water crisis. A group of business leaders from the summit are addressing the idea, but the work is not yet complete, according to the Flint & Genesee Chamber of Commerce.

City Of Flint Looks To Fill 7,000 Vacant Commercial Building Amid Recovery Effort

By CBS Detroit 06/27/16 11:55 AM

Officials in Flint are looking for ways to make an estimated 7,000-plus vacant commercial properties more attractive to investors as the city works to recover from its crisis with lead-tainted water. The renewed effort was part of strategies that emerged from a summit earlier this month that could mold the vision for Flint's economic recovery efforts reports the Flint Journal. The Flint & Genesee Chamber of Commerce says work isn't complete on the idea.

Mott Foundation grant to expand Flint Schools learning model

By WTOL CBS 11 06/27/16

A \$2.9 million Mott Foundation grant will help expand a learning model in Flint Community Schools that takes into consideration family life and student health needs. The grant will go to the Crim Fitness Foundation which coordinates community school efforts. The model also seeks to help schools connect students and families affected by the city's lead-tainted water with resources and services.

Waterways bill eyed as solution for Flint

By Melanie Zanona, The Hill 06/26/16 8:00 AM

Lawmakers and stakeholders are urging leadership to take up a bipartisan waterways bill before the summer recess, casting the legislation as a way to break Congress out of gridlock while delivering emergency aid to Flint, Mich. Panels in the House and Senate each advanced their

own legislation this year to boost the nation's ports and waterways, fulfilling a promise from committee leaders to return to a two-year cycle of authorizing projects under the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA).

Feeding America applauds Food Bank for Flint water crisis efforts

By Jiquanda Johnson, MLIVE 06/24/16 5:19 PM

Representatives from Feeding America toured the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan on June 24 to see the agency's operations in the midst of Flint's water crisis. William Kerr, president of the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan along with Phil Knight, executive director of the Food Bank Council of Michigan walked throughout the facility with Feed America's President Matt Knott today.

Boil advisory lifted in Flint

By WWMT 06/27/16

The people of Flint are once again allowed to drink the water after a boil water advisory was lifted. Flint officials issued the advisory a week ago, saying bacterial contamination was possible following a drop in pressure in the city's water supply. City officials say there is no sign of contamination and that the advisory was issued only as a precaution.

App Flint water crisis information gets update

By AP for Detroit News 06/26/16 9:35 AM

A mobile app that seeks to make it easier for people in Flint to learn where to get assistance amid the city's lead-tainted water crisis has received an update. The app called "Empower Flint" offers a checklist of things people can do to protect themselves, their families and their pets. Michigan State University, which helped develop the app, says recent updates include more news and other pertinent information.

Multiple traffic lights out following power outage in downtown Flint

By Roberto Acosta, MLIVE 06/26/16 2:08 PM

Some traffic lights are out following a power outage Sunday, June 26 in downtown Flint. The Consumers Energy outage map shows nearly 200 people without power in the city, from Second Avenue to the north, Avon Street to the east, Fifth Street on the south end, and Grand Traverse Street on the west side. Some of the intersection without traffic lights operating include Stevens and Court streets and Stevens and Fifth Street and some lights along Saginaw Street. Drivers should treat the intersections as four-way stops.

Boil advisory lifted in Flint after water main break

By Roberto Acosta, MLIVE 06/26/16 12:02 PM

A boil water advisory issued in Flint last week after a water main break has been lifted. The city issued a statement over the weekend lifting the advisory regarding the affected area on and around Court Street where the main break led to work on multiple valves and partial road closure. People had been asked to boil their water as a preventive measure as bacterial contamination may have occurred in the water system due to a loss in pressure for residents.

Officials warn residents to check ID before letting water officials in homes

By Jiquanda Johnson, MLIVE 06/24/16 5:49 PM

Water crisis teams will be out canvassing Flint homes this weekend and officials are asking residents to check identification before letting people in. In an effort to confirm if residents have water filters teams will hit the streets on Saturday, June 25 visiting Flint homes. They will be out from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. checking more than 2,300 homes for water filters. The Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland security is warning residents to verify identification before letting people into their homes.

Hundreds of vehicles roll into Flint for Sloan Auto Fair

By Roberto Acosta, MLIVE 06/26/16 5:44 PM

The two-day, 44th annual Sloan Museum Auto Fair brought hundreds of classic and stylish cars onto the grounds of the Flint Cultural Center Campus in Flint. Other activities during the June 25-26 event included craft and food vendors, car parts and vehicles for sale, as well as tractors, fire trucks and other vintage vehicles on hand for attendees to see.

Flint Water Crisis Could Easily Have Been Avoided, Says CDC

By MPR 06/27/16

Analysis of blood samples from young children in Flint, Mich., shows they had much more lead in their blood when the city used local drinking water in an effort to cut costs, according to research published in the early release June 24 issue of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report. During the period that the Flint River water was used (April 25, 2014, to Oct. 15, 2015), lead levels in local tap water increased over time, as did lead content in children's blood, the CDC said. A series of blood samples showed that children younger than 6 were nearly 50 percent more likely to have elevated blood lead levels when the city used the Flint River for drinking water instead of the Detroit water system. The percentage of children with high lead content returned to previous levels once the city switched back to the Detroit system.

CDC Report Details Public Health Hazard in Flint, Michigan

By Janis Kelly, Medscape 06/27/16

The prevalence of blood lead levels (BLLs) at or above 5 µg/dL in children younger than age 5 years in Flint, Michigan, closely track with the use of drinking water from a local source, researchers from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) conclude in a study published June 24 in the Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report. After city officials switched from the Detroit Water Authority (DWA) to the Flint Water System (FWS), children were 46% more likely to have BLLs µg/dL than before the switch.

Report Confirms Dangerous Lead Levels in Children During Flint Water Crisis

By Hannah Gold, GAWKER 06/25/16 11:25 AM

Lead levels that shoot above 5 micrograms per deciliter of blood in children under the age of six are considered dangerous and can inhibit the child's growth and cause learning disabilities and behavioral problems. A report released by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention on Friday found the odds of a young child living in Flint Michigan contracting such high levels of lead in their blood system rose by 50 percent after the city switched its water supply from Detroit's water system to the Flint River in April 2014.

EPA Says Filtered Flint Drinking Water Is Safe To Drink

By Reuters for Huffington Post 06/24/16 5:46 PM

Federal officials said on Thursday it is safe for anyone to drink properly filtered water in Flint, Michigan, where a public health crisis erupted after residents were exposed to dangerously high levels of lead. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) said in a statement that the most recent testing at nearly 50 locations in the city showed lead levels far below the levels considered dangerous. But the city's mayor said some homes in Flint cannot be fitted with filters, so bottled water is still needed.

Other News

Email shows top doc got early warning on Legionnaires'

By Chad Livengood, Detroit News 06/27/16 9:12 AM

The state's top doctor was among high-level Michigan health officials briefed about a deadly Legionnaires' disease outbreak in Genesee County nearly one year before it was publicly disclosed, state records show. Dr. Matthew Davis, who served on Gov. Rick Snyder's Flint water task force, has previously denied having any knowledge of the Legionnaires' outbreak prior to his April 2015 departure from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services as the state's chief medical executive.

Could toxic chemicals along the Ohio River be a danger to our drinking water?

By Lisa Bernard-Kuhn WCPO 9 06/27/16

Arsenic. Lead. Mercury. Sulfuric Acid. At a closed Duke Energy power plant, at least 10 billion pounds of coal ash containing these toxins and more are sitting on the banks of the Ohio River – a source of drinking water for more than 5 million people. How the polluted ponds got there is a story that began long before environmental laws were created to keep people and drinking water safe from toxic waste.

AP News Guide: The Flint Water Crisis Emails

By David Eggert & Roger Schneider (AP) for ABC News 06/25/16 11:33 AM

Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder has released 290,000 more pages of state emails and documents related to lead-contaminated water in Flint. The disclosure Tuesday was the 10th and final mass-

release of such records, which total nearly a half-million pages and revealed his administration's inner dialogue over the crisis. The disaster began when the poverty-stricken city of nearly 100,000 residents left Detroit's water system and started using improperly treated Flint River water in April 2014 while under state management.

Bridge Magazine's new book is first comprehensive telling of Flint water crisis

By Michigan Radio 06/24/16 [radio clip]

The Flint water crisis is now an important piece of the city's story and history. It will affect the city and its residents for decades to come. Michigan Radio and countless other local and national news outlets have reported various aspects of the crisis, from how it unfolded to how the crisis will affect the city's children as they grow into adults. And that reporting will continue into the foreseeable future, since Flint water is still not safe to drink, unfiltered.

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